

REMARKS

Claims 27-50 are in the application. They replace claims 1-26 which have been deleted.

The Examiner will note that, as a result of the foregoing amendment, appropriate headings have been provided for the specification.

Also, references to the claims have been deleted from the specification.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, are respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the claims as rewritten overcome the problems pointed out by the Examiner.

Applicants have noted that the Examiner has indicated that claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 is overcome.

However, applicants respectfully submit that not only the configuration according to original claim 7 (now claim 33) in

which the carrier element moves the side plate around a swivel axis or along a curve is patentable over the art of record, but also the configuration of original claim 1 (now claim 27) in which the carrier element is movable downwardly together with the side plate from the setting position and back up into the setting position. This is because none of the references relied on by the Examiner in rejecting the claims discloses or suggests a downward movement of the carrier element with the side plate.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 27, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentable over the art of record.

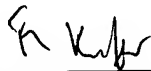
A telephonic interview was conducted between the Examiner and the undersigned attorney on June 17, 2003. In the interview, the Examiner pointed out that the Office Action dated March 4, 2003 was returned to the office. The Examiner requested the undersigned attorney to file Notification of Change of Address and the Examiner indicated that he would remail the Office Action once the Notification is received. The Examiner did resend the Office Action on June 18, 2003.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing, it is submitted

that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on September 4, 2003.

By:



Friedrich Kueffner

Date: September 4, 2003



Patent

HM-483

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Heinrich Marti, et al.
Serial No.: 10/088,832
Filed: June 12, 2002
For: STRIP-CASTING MACHINE WITH TWO CASTING ROLLS
Examiner: Kuang Y.Lin
Art Unit: 1725

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

S I R:

Applicant hereby petitions for a three-months extension of time of the period for responding to the Office Action dated June 18, 2003. A check in the amount of \$930.00 to cover the petition fee is enclosed.

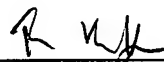
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Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 4, 2003

Encl.: Check in the amount of \$930.00

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